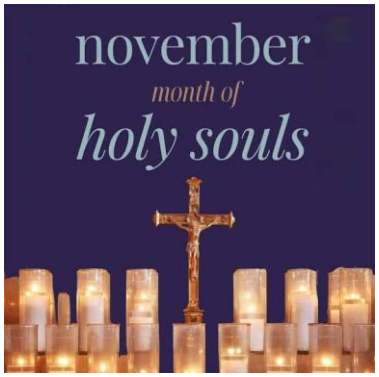
Catholic Parish of
The Sacred Heart and St Aldhelm
Sherborne
15th November 2026
Daily Mass Year 2 – Psalter 1
WORLD DAY OF THE POOR
SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY



E-mail: sherborne@prcdtr.org.uk website: www.sherbornecatholicchurch.org

The Parish Office
is open on Wednesday & Friday mornings -
(emails and telephone calls are monitored all week)

Saturday	**14th**	**6.00pm**	**Matthew Marutheu & Tressiamma Thomas R.I.P.**
Sunday	**15th**	**10.30am**	**Friends of the Farebrother family R.I.P**
Monday	**16th**	**10.00am**	**Ivan Pergetti R.I.P (Anniv.)**
Tuesday	**17th**	**10-11.00am**	**Private prayer & Exposition**
Wednesday	**18th**	**10.00am**	**Shirley Snell R.I.P**
Thursday	**19th**	**10-11.00am**	**Private prayer & Exposition**
Friday	**20th**	**10.00am**	**Deceased members of the Wallace family**
Saturday	**21st**	**6.00pm**	**Malcolm, John, Anne & Jane Heygate-Browne, John Hill & Harvey Rawlings R.I.P**

Sherborne Churches together invites us to pray for a particular worshipping community each week.



Today we pray for: St. Paul's Church

We hope this brings our Christian family together.

Office Tel: 01935 812021
Convent: 01935 816591 (For Mass intentions)
Mgr. Canon Robert Draper
The Parish House, Westbury, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 3EL Tel: 01935 816420
Deacon Jonathan Simon Tel: 01935 873100
The Parish of the Sacred Heart & St Aldhelm is part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Plymouth, Registered Charity No. 213227

Weekly Letter

“Safeguarding in the Diocese – love protects.”
This Sunday – 15th November – is Safeguarding Sunday.

“When people hear the word safeguarding, they often think of regulations, policies, forms, or DBS checks. Those things are important, of course, but safeguarding is really about something much deeper.

It's about how we care for one another.

It's about making sure that every person who comes through the doors of our churches, especially children, young people, and adults who may be vulnerable, experiences our communities as places of welcome, dignity, and safety.

In other words, safeguarding is one of the ways we put love into action. And that's why I think this theme, Love Protects, captures safeguarding so beautifully.

As we leave today, I'd invite us all to remember that safeguarding isn't just a diocesan policy, and it certainly isn't just the work of a safeguarding team.

It's part of our mission as the Church.

It's part of how we live out the commandment to love one another.

Every child who feels safe in our parish.

Every vulnerable person who feels respected.

Every survivor who is listened to.

Every volunteer who is equipped and supported.

Every concern that is taken seriously.

These are all signs of a Church that is striving to reflect the love of Christ.

So, in the spirit of Safeguarding Sunday, and every day moving forwards, let us continue building communities where people know they are welcome, valued, heard, and safe.

I hope that each of you, in some small way, feel the protection of love this weekend, and that those you meet feel it from you in return.

Because when love moves beyond words and becomes action, love protects".

Reflections from Martin Christmas-Nelson
Head of safeguarding for the Diocese

Copies of an open letter from Martin, highlighting all the ways in which love protects us through safeguarding in the Diocese of Plymouth are available in the narthex.

He would especially like to thank our Parish Safeguarding Representatives who volunteer their time and services and provide invaluable support within our parish.

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Prayers of the faithful
15th November – week 33

We pray for the church here and throughout the world: for all who await the coming of the Lord in hope and faith.

We pray for those in our world who seek to bring peace to the world and relief and justice to the sick, oppressed and threatened.

We pray for those we know who have need of our prayers – especially the sick, anxious and lonely in our parish and families.

We pray for ourselves that we may be generous in the sharing of our gifts and talents.

We pray for all those who have died: that they may be given kind admittance to God's kingdom.

Sunday Readings – a brief reflection

Sunday 15th November - Thirty third Sunday of the Year

Prov 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; Ps127; 1 Thess 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30

I have no doubt that today's readings will have been used regularly to emphasise the importance of a strong work ethic and the diligence required of believers. I suspect today that the picture of the perfect wife will raise irritation in the minds of many – and not just women – with its insistence of how the wife's labours benefit her husband. The parable of the servants can also seem straightforward in promoting diligent work for the benefit of the master. No doubt that can be the intention of the parable, as is the poem on the perfect wife (a different translation might call her the strong woman). However the presence of the figure of Wisdom last week in the reading from the book of that name might invite us to ponder whether the poem is simply praising the work of a real wife or being a meditation on the figure of Wisdom herself – there is a clear resonance between the two – and also with much of the imagery of lady wisdom in the scriptures. One can also be quite sure that in the Israelite culture of the time no real woman could have the authority given here. The book of proverbs has several poems about the figure of Wisdom, this final one could be a kind of summation in which the disciple celebrates his union with the Wisdom which comes from God. Perhaps the poem is an invitation for us to reflect on the presence of God working in human lives – our own as well as that of the "perfect wife".

The parable seems straightforward enough, until we get to the last servant. He fails to use the talent he has been entrusted with, and so is severely reprimanded, but it is worth noting that he did so because he was afraid and knew his master to be a hard man who reaped where he had not sown and gathered where he had not scattered. In a culture where there is often criticism of unbridled capitalism, it is worth reflecting on whether there is more to this parable than simply a call to work hard! (Indeed, if the figure of the master – the one who issues commands and gives rewards – is meant to be God, the description is quite uncomfortable!)

For reflection:

Do you find yourself feeling irritated, impressed or amused at the image of the perfect wife given in the first reading? Why?

What do you think your greatest talents are? For whose benefit do you use them?

You are invited to take an envelope marked "Month of the Holy Souls" and place a list of your dear departed ones in it. The envelopes will be brought up with the Offertory gifts and placed before the altar as a sign of our prayers for the dead.

Church Services this week

Mass in the parish church:
Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10.00am

Private prayer with exposition:
Tuesday and Thursday 10.00am - 11.00am

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Please pray:

For the students and staff of St Antony's Leweston at this difficult time.

Please note the service at the Abbey for Leweston this Sunday at 2.30pm

A message from Sr. Josephine: As last year, the Sisters, instead of Christmas cards, will have masses said throughout 2027 for parishioners and friends. Our prayers, thanks and best wishes as always.

November Parish Dates for your Diary

Friday 20th **Scripture Matters 10.45-12.15pm**

Once a month, our small group gathers in the Sacred Heart & St Aldhelm Church Hall to reflect on and discuss 'God's Word' in the Readings for the following Sunday's celebration of Mass. For further information please contact: *gaybarry39@hotmail.com or 07887 840449.*

Friday 27th **Mum's Group 10.30am – 12.30pm**

We'll have tea, coffee, and cake, and something to keep the children happy too, with toys, colouring, and activities.
No pressure, no expectations, just a friendly space to meet, talk, and build community. No need to book, just pop in – we'd love you to join us!

Saturday 28th **Family Advent Day –** further information in next week's newsletter! *Katherine Steele & Katya Heygate-Browne*

Bags of Presents!

Are you giving any presents this year?

Every year, people are buying new bags to put presents in.
Others have bags left over at home.
If you want some bags, come and choose from the pre-used bags in the hall. If you can, leave a donation in the bowl.
Or, if you have some bags in your cupboard that you don't expect to use, bring them along so that others can use them.

Bags will be available in the hall after the weekend Masses from Saturday 22nd November until the 4th Sunday in Advent
(or until there are none left).

From the Plymouth Office:

Please encourage young people to sign up to this Young Adults Retreat, which will take place 20th-22nd November at Buckfast Abbey. This is aimed at young adults (18-30 years).

There is a poster in the narthex. The theme of the retreat will be to reflect on preparing for Advent, underpinned by the scripture Isaiah 40:3. There will be times of prayer, reflection and discussion led by Dominican Brothers Augustine and Reginald. Young people are being asked to make a contribution of £40 each.

The link is: Buckfast Abbey Retreat for young adults 20th - 22nd November 2026 – Fill in form

Thank you in advance for encouraging the young people in your parish to attend this event, which promises to be a time of great spiritual growth for them.



Fr Robert is producing a short daily email with a reflection on the daily mass readings. If you would like to receive it, please let the office know.

Please keep in touch and tell others who wish to keep in touch with the parish by emailing the parish office (or phoning Fr Robert - 816420) and we will respond.

If you know of any parishioner who is not on the internet or who cannot receive emails, do please make a hard copy of this, and put it through their letter box, or contact the parish office and we will try and do that.

If there are specific needs you have and want help – please let us know.

If you would like a Mass said, there are special envelopes in the narthex, or you may wish to use your own. Please post it through the Convent door. It is customary to give a donation, if you can. If you require a special date, please provide your telephone number.

The Church was established by The Religious of Christian Instruction in 1891

NEWSLETTER ITEMS:

Any notices for the newsletter should be e-mailed to the office before Thursday afternoon. The Secretary is normally in the office on Wednesday and Friday mornings.

The Church Office, Church Hall, Westbury, Sherborne DT9 3RA - 01935 812021.

SICK & HOUSEBOUND VISITS:

If you or anyone you know is sick or housebound and would like to receive Communion, please **contact Fr Robert 01935 816420** or Sarah Nadasy 01935 816616.

PARISH SECRETARY: Kristine Mountain

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPs: Jamie Mead and Jennie Haynes

PASTORAL COUNCIL: Deacon Jonathan Simon, Georgina Bruce, Tricia Chapman, Tim Kelly, Lulu Paul, Sr. Rose.

HALL BOOKINGS: Please email or phone the Office.